(a) whether Osama Bin Laden's Funds and Forces have reached fundamentalist groups in West Bengal, at the behest of ISI of Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Central Government has no information to this effect.

Insurgency in North East

234. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what efforts have been made by Government so far to contain insurgency in the North East;

(b) what is the success achieved by Government in this field;

(c) what amount of security-related expenditure has been incurred by the North Eastern States; and

(d) how much of this amount has been reimbursed so far; giving the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The steps taken by the Government to contain insurgency in the North East include, inter alia deployment of additional units of Central Para Military Forces and Army; improved coordination and sharing of intelligence; modernisation/upgradation of State Police Forces; reimbursement of security related expenditure, raising of India Reserve Battalions, sanction of Special Central Assistance; declarat on of the most seriously affected areas as 'disturbed areas' and notification of the major insurgent groups as 'unlawful associations'.

(b) The situation has shown a distinct improvement in some of the North Eastern States.

(c) and (d) Total Security Related Expenditure incurred by the North Eastern States is not maintained in the Ministry of Home

Affairs. Security related expenditure, reimbursed so far, as per guidelines, to North Eastern States is as follows:

State	Amount (Rs. in crores)
Assam	236.77
Nagaland	39.36
Manipur	22.43
Tripura	46.08

Powerful Officials on Plum Posts

235. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem appearing in the Pioneer of 5th November, 1999 captioned, Powerful Officials manage to stick to plum posts;

(b) whether the individual cases referred in it are true;

(c) if so, whether it is not affecting the morale of the officials of the Ministry; and

(d) whether it is against the guidelines issued by the CVC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHR I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) Government has seen the news item referred to in the question.

In May, 1999, 186 officials in the rank of LDCs, UDCs, Assistants, Section/Desk Officers and Under Secretaries were ordered to be transferred as part of the rotational transfer policy. Such of the officials who had held a post for five years or more in sensitive Divisions and ten years or more in non-sensitive Divisions were ordered to be transferred. However, a few transfer orders were kept in abeyance in the exigencies of work.